

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed, and reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in the above-identified patent application. Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claim 1 has been amended which is substantially the combination of original claims 1 and 3-4 so as to make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner. No new matter is added. In light of the amendment and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

As described in the specification of the application, page 9, line 26 through page 10, line 1-11, in the travel of the blade 3 push out by the of the blade 3. Therefore, only one single blade 3 is truly engaged.

However, Ping does not teach or suggest the slope section 171 of the guide rail 17. With reference to the Appendixes 1 and 2, the guide rail 17 and the slope section 171 are formed on an inner periphery of one of a casing half in which the blades is received. The Examiner states that the front section of the guide rail is a slope section (Fig. 19), page 3, line 9, in the Office Action. However, the Fig. 19 of Ping shows the first casing half 2 and the blades is received in the second casing half 3. If the guide rail of Ping has a slope section formed on the front section thereof, the slope section should laterally push the slides 50 toward the blades

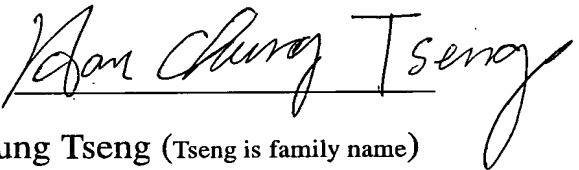
received in the second casing half 3 and then the blade engaged to the slide should collide with the blade in the second casing half 3 and stop the slide. As a result, the used blade cannot be fully backward moved into the complete casing 4. Consequently, Applicant speculates and believes that Ping does not teach or suggest and slope section formed on the front section of the guide rail. Lack such a teaching or suggestion, a determination of anticipation is improper.

For prevent the blades from rusting, the blade is usually oiled. However, the oiled blades may become adhesive relative to each other so that the next blade may be moved with the used blade when the used blade is backward moved. The slot in the blade seat and the corresponding projecting block of the present application are provided to prevent the above condition. However, Applicant is of the opinion that Ping does not teach or suggest the slot and the projecting block. With reference to Figs. 13 and 19 of and column 4 lines 8-13 of Ping, Ping discloses that a resilient blade carrier 58 is attached to the support bar 57 by screw 61 and has a lower pick-up finger 59 extending inwardly through lower opening 63 in the support bar 57 and an upper blade release finger 60 also extending inwardly through upper opening 64 in the support bar 57. Furthermore, the slide disclosed by Ping is only connected to a top portion of the blade so that the slide has not place to defined a slot that is wide enough to partially received a projecting block. Lack such a teaching or suggestion, a determination of anticipation is improper.

Accordingly, by the amendment, it is believed that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn, and the amended claim 1 should be allowable. It is further submitted that the claims 5 and 6 should be allowable as they are dependent upon the amended claim 1 that is believe to be allowable.

After the amendment to the claims, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claim 1 is in a condition for allowance and requests a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

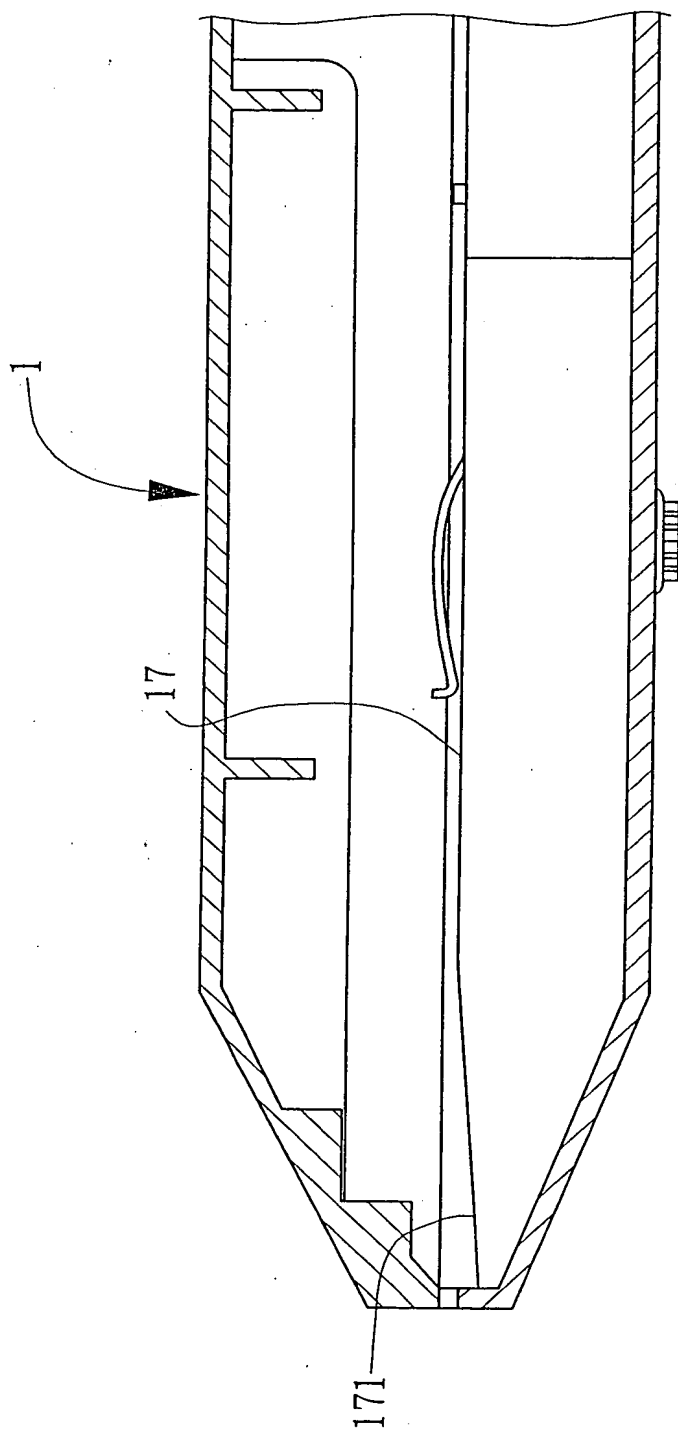
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Dated: December 19, 2003

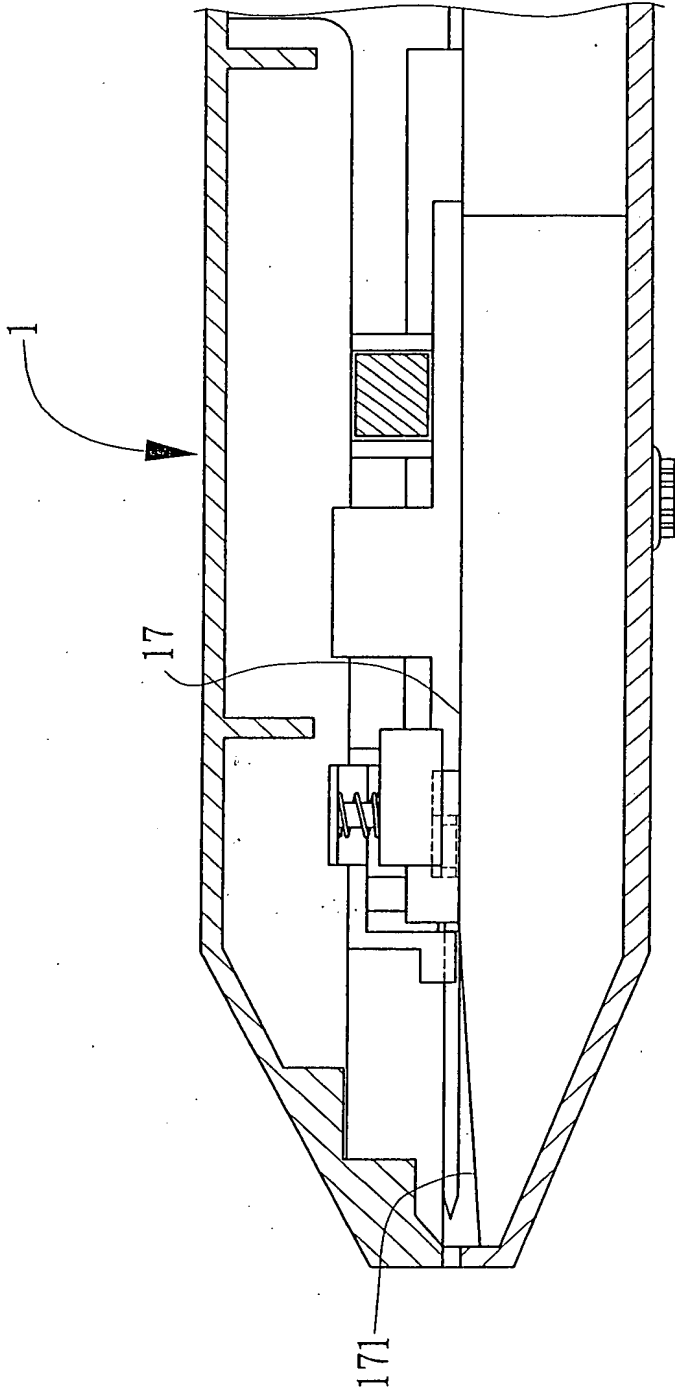
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APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2